

SECURITY INFORMATION

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COPY NO. 43

PSYCHOLOGICAL STRATEGY BOARD  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

April 16, 1953

MEMORANDUM OF INFORMAL PSB MEETING, APRIL 16, 1953.

Place: Office of the Special Assistant to the President.


Present: Messrs. Jackson, Smith, Kyes, Dulles, Stassen  
and Morgan.

Agenda Item 1. The Board discussed a proposed European tour of the Metropolitan Opera Company in the fall of 1954. Mr. Jackson agreed to investigate alternative possibilities in greater detail.

Agenda Item 2. The Board decided that each member agency would monitor intensively the impact of the President's speech during the next few days and that the Working Group (Stalin) should study the results of these monitorings with a view to recommending appropriate follow up.

The Board also discussed possible Soviet moves which might be made in response to the speech, including the Austrian treaty, proposal for a four-power meeting, or a move for an immediate cease-fire in Korea. It was suggested that the Soviets would try to recapture the initiative in any case. The desirability was pointed out of keeping some progress moving under EDC even if a four-power conference were agreed to. The complexities involved in the Korean situation were analyzed. It was noted that the forthcoming return of sick prisoners in Korea might blanket the news coverage of the NATO Council meeting on the 23rd and 24th. Mr. Kyes agreed to cable General Clark informing him of this problem and asking his cooperation in timing the release of human interest stories so as to interfere as little as possible with NATO Council coverage on those dates.

Agenda Item 3. Mr. Jackson showed the Board a draft statement for a proposed Presidential press conference to be held before the opening of the NATO Council meeting, putting the significance of the Administration's long-range economic and defense policies in a positive light.

  
George A. Morgan  
Acting Director.

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FROM: Psychological Strategy Board (via FP/PP/PL, 1309 K)

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